Proposal for Four-Laning of NH-31A

1507. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received any request from the State Government of Sikkim to convert NH-31A into four-lanes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of Government to this proposal; and

(d) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) to (d) Four laning of NH-31A from Sevoke to Gangtok was approved by the Government on 22.9.2005 for implementation under Phase 'A' of Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for North Eastern Region, which was formulated by the Ministry in consultation of the State Governments. The proposal was subsequently approved by the Government on 18.5.2006 for 2-lane with paved shoulders in view of exorbitant cost of 4-laning. Detailed Project Report for 2-lane with paved shoulders has been prepared by National Highways Authority of India.

Gwalior city bypass

†1508. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gwalior city bypass is proposed to be constructed at National Highway No. 3;

(b) if so, the present status of this proposal;

(c) the amount to be spent thereon; and

(d) by when this construction work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Construction of 4-lane Gwalior bypass has been taken up on BOT(Annuity) basis. The bypass connects NH 3 at chainage km. 103.00 and NH-75 at chainage km. 16.00 and the total length of the bypass is 42.03 km. The work has commenced in April 2007.

(c) and (d) The total cost of this project is Rs. 300.93 crore. An amount of Rs. 22.77 crore has been spent on this project upto January 2008. The project is scheduled to be completed in October 2009.

Private consultants on road safety

1509. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether NHAI has hired private consultants to advise on road safety;

† *Original notice of the question was received in Hindi*